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Hammer Museum to Honor Judy Chicago and Jordan Peele at Annual Gala in the Garden, October 12



(Los Angeles, CA)—The Hammer Museum announced today that trailblazing feminist artist **Judy Chicago** and filmmaker **Jordan Peele** will be honored at this year's Gala in the Garden on Saturday, October 12, 2019. The annual celebration recognizes artists and innovators who have made profound contributions to society through their work.

"We are thrilled to honor Judy Chicago and Jordan Peele, two artists whose groundbreaking works resonate across our political and cultural landscape," said **Hammer Director Ann Philbin**. "Judy Chicago is a pioneer of feminist art and education; her installation *The Dinner Party* is a landmark artwork of the last fifty years. Jordan Peele has emerged as one of today's most incisive social commentators through his genre-busting films *Get Out* and *Us*. Judy and Jordan, each in their own way, have redefined their fields and opened doors for more artists to follow."

The highly anticipated event attracts cultural and civic leaders in Los Angeles, as well as artists, collectors, and patrons of the arts. Last year's event, which honored Margaret Atwood and Glenn Ligon, raised \$2.6 million for the museum. Chef Suzanne Goin of Lucques will once again create the menu.

Proceeds from the gala will support the Hammer's dynamic and internationally acclaimed exhibitions and public programs.

Past honorees include **Hilton Als, Laurie Anderson, Margaret Atwood, John Baldessari, Mark Bradford, Joan Didion, Ava DuVernay, Dave Eggers, Frank Gehry, Robert Gober, Matt Groening, Todd Haynes, Diane Keaton, Mike Kelley, Barbara Kruger, Tony Kushner, Glenn Ligon, Paul McCarthy, Joni Mitchell, Catherine Opie, Lari Pittman, Miuccia Prada, Charles Ray, Ed Ruscha, Cindy Sherman, Kara Walker, and Alice Waters.**

For event inquiries, please call (310) 443-7026 or email gala@hammer.ucla.edu.

ABOUT THE HONOREES

Judy Chicago is an artist, author of fourteen books, educator, and humanist whose work and life are models for an enlarged definition of art, an expanded role for the artist, and women's rights to freedom of expression. Chicago is most well-known for her role in creating a Feminist art and art education program in California during the early 1970s, and for her monumental work *The Dinner Party* (1974–1979), which was the subject of a 1996 exhibition at the Hammer Museum and is the centerpiece of the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the

Image captions: Judy Chicago, photo by Donald Woodman; Jordan Peele, photo by Claudette Barius/Universal Pictures

Brooklyn Museum in New York. Over the subsequent decades, Chicago has approached a variety of subjects in a range of media, including the *Birth Project*, *PowerPlay*, the *Holocaust Project: From Darkness into Light*, and *Resolutions: A Stitch in Time*. Her latest body of work, *The End: A Meditation on Death and Extinction*, will premiere at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in the fall of 2019, shortly after the publication of a major monograph. Chicago's work has been exhibited widely in the United States and internationally and her influence continues to be acknowledged worldwide, most recently evidenced both by her inclusion in *Time Magazine's* list of "100 Most Influential People" 2018 and as one of *Artsy Magazine's* 2018 "Most Influential Artists." In 2019, she received the Visionary Woman award from the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. Judy Chicago is represented by Salon 94, New York and Jessica Silverman Gallery, San Francisco.

Jordan Peele is an Oscar- and Emmy-Award-winning writer, producer, director and actor. His first feature film, *Get Out*, was released in 2017 and quickly became an international phenomenon. The film received widespread critical praise for twisting the genre of horror into a thought-provoking commentary on race in America. *Get Out* was recognized with four Academy Award nominations—Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Director, and Best Original Screenplay. Peele became only the fifth African-American to be nominated for Best Director and the first to ever win the Oscar for original screenplay. In 2019, Peele wrote, produced and directed his second feature, *Us*, which told the story of an African-American family encountering terrifying doppelgangers of themselves while on vacation. Like *Get Out*, the film instantly became a smash hit with audiences and critics alike, posting the largest box-office opening for an original horror movie ever and second-largest opening for a live-action original.

Prior to *Get Out*, Peele was the co-star and co-creator of *Key & Peele* on Comedy Central. The sketch comedy show unabashedly lampooned pop culture and social issues in America, particularly ethnic stereotypes and race relations, and continually pushed the boundaries for television comedy. Across five seasons, the show's unique take on sketch comedy became a viral sensation online and collectively its sketches would garner more than 1 billion views.

Peele formed his company, Monkeypaw Productions, to champion unique perspectives and artistic collaborations with traditionally underrepresented voices, while embracing unconventional storytelling through genre. Under the Monkeypaw banner, Peele produced Spike Lee's feature, *BlacKkKlansman*, in 2018, about an undercover policeman who infiltrates the KKK. The film received six Oscar nominations, winning Lee his first-ever Oscar (Adapted Screenplay) and earning Peele his fourth nomination in two years. Monkeypaw and Peele currently produce the Tracy Morgan series, *The LAST O.G.* and the reboot of the cult classic *The Twilight Zone* for CBS All-Access, in which Peele also portrays the role of the narrator that was originally played by *Twilight Zone* creator, Rod Serling. In 2019, Monkeypaw also produced the Amazon docuseries, *Lorena*, an exposé of the real story behind the infamous Lorena and John Wayne Bobbitt domestic violence case.

ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM

The Hammer Museum is part of the School of the Arts and Architecture at UCLA, and offers exhibitions and collections that span classic to contemporary art. It holds more than 50,000 works in its collection, including one of the finest collections of works on paper in the nation, the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts. Through a wide-ranging, international exhibition program and the biennial, Made in L.A., the Hammer highlights contemporary art since the 1960s, especially the work of emerging and under recognized artists. The exhibitions, permanent collections, and nearly 300 public programs annually—including film screenings, lectures, symposia, readings, music performances, and workshops for families—are all free to the public.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

Admission to all exhibitions and programs at the Hammer Museum is free, made possible through the generosity of benefactors Erika J. Glazer and Brenda R. Potter. Hours: Tuesday–Friday 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Saturday & Sunday 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Mondays and national holidays. Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Boulevard at Westwood, Los Angeles. Onsite parking \$7 (maximum 3 hours) or \$7 flat rate after 6 p.m. Visit hammer.ucla.edu for details or call 310-443-7000.